

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/CA2004/001855

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC: G02B 6/38

According to the International Patent Classification (IPC)

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC: G02B 6/38, G02B 6/36 US Classification: 385/all

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base, and, where practicable, search terms used)

Delphion, Espacenet, Techsource (Canadian Database); search terms used: ferrule, optic*, connect*, (continued on extra sheet)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5,121,456 A (ESSERT ET AL.) 9 June 1992 (09 - 06 - 1992) abstract; figures 1 to 8A; and column 2, line 46 to column 6, line 21	1 to 4
Y	US 5,307,431 A (MEDHADJI ET AL.) 26 April 1994 (26 - 04 - 1994) abstract; figures 1 to 11; column 2, lines 3 to 46; and column 4, line 23 to column 8, line 23	1 to 4
Y	EP 1 148 366 A2 (ANDREWS ET AL.) 24 October 2001 (24 - 10 - 2001) abstract; figures 1 to 4; and column 6, lines 5 to 35	1 to 4
Y	JP 2002 311293 A (SEISAKU ET AL.) 23 October 2002 (23 - 10 - 2002) abstract	1 to 4

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

“A”	Special categories of cited documents : document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	“T”	later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
“E”	earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date	“X”	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
“L”	document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	“Y”	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
“O”	document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	“&”	document member of the same patent family
“P”	document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		

Date of the actual completion of the international-type search
22 December 2004 (22-12-2004)

Date of mailing of the international-type search report
02 March 2005 (02-03-2005)

Name and mailing address of the ISA/
Commissioner of Patents
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C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 6,357,933 B1 (BRADLEY ET AL.) 19 March 2002 (19 - 03 - 2002) abstract; figures 1 to 4; column 4, lines 42 to 64; and claims 1 to 4 (cited in the application)	1
Y	US 5,768,455 A (KONIK) 16 June 1998 (16 - 06 - 1998) figure 1A; column 5, lines 39 to 44; and claims 1 to 11	1

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Information on patent family members

International application No.
PCT/CA2004/001855

Patent Document Cited In Search Report	Publication Date	Patent Family Member(s)	Publication Date
US5121456 A	09-06-1992	CA2046564 A1 DE69123540D D1 DE69123540T T2 DE69133124D D1 DE69133124T T2 EP0479415 A2 EP0702254 A2 JP3061306B2 B2	07-03-1992 23-01-1997 15-05-1997 07-11-2002 18-06-2003 08-04-1992 20-03-1996 10-07-2000
US5307431A	26-04-1994	EP0536072 A1 FR2682195 A1	07-04-1993 09-04-1993
EP1148366 A2	24-10-2001	JP2001290050 A US6318903 B1	19-10-2001 20-11-2001
JP2002311293 A	23-10-2002	NONE	
US6357933 B1	19-03-2002	NONE	
US5768455 A	16-06-1998	NONE	

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Continuation Box B. Field Searched - search terms used:

cone*, conic, taper*, slot*, split*, slit*, mechanic*, splic*, plug* and cap*